

SPIRIT OF THE PRESS.

Editorial Opinions of the Leading Journals upon Current Topics—Compiled Every Day for the Evening Telegraph.

THE STORIES OF PRUSSIAN CRUELITIES.

From the N. Y. Times.

There is, perhaps, nothing more pitiful about war than the way in which the supplementary work of blackening each other's reputation is carried on, amid the clash of arms, by the combatants, through the newspapers. This means of offense has been added to the armory of civilized warfare, curiously enough, by the growth of humane feeling and the spread of the sentiment of human brotherhood. When Tilly stormed Magdeburg, and his men, after violating the women, killed everybody of every age and sex they could lay hold of, neither he nor they were at all desirous of having the fact concealed. In fact, they wanted the news of it spread far and wide, so that the terror inspired by it might save them trouble on like occasions afterward. When Turenne laid waste the Palatinate, the last thing that occurred to him or his master was to feel ashamed of it. In those days the great aim of every warrior was to show as many evidences as possible of his power; and as long as he did this successfully, he cared little about charges of cruelty, and, indeed, would have laughed at anybody who took the trouble to bring them. The soldier was expected to have a touch of ferocity in his disposition, and to be only kept from massacres even in time of peace by rigid discipline.

Now, however, all this is changed. The soldier has to be gentle, as well as brave. Flunder, not to speak of the slaughter, of the unresisting has come to be looked at as a great stain on the reputation of an army. Soldiers are expected to respect private property on the march, and what they take to take in an orderly and quasi-legal manner, under cover of a "requisition." It is a point of honor with a general to see that women who fall within the sphere of his operations are held harmless, and that no wanton devastation is committed in the territory through which he passes, even though it be the enemy's territory. Occasionally, of course, devastation is formally and despatchedly committed, but always with much lamentation over it as a painful military necessity. This state of things has furnished belligerents with means of damaging each other they never enjoyed in the good old days, and they avail themselves of those means with indolent diligence. It is, of course, impossible to guess what Tilly would have said if he had been denounced as a savage by hundreds of newspapers; but the probabilities are that, his morality remaining what it was, he would have enjoyed the notoriety. Commanders in the summer season, and nations which employ them, are grown thin-skinned in proportion to the increase of publicity by which all deeds, both of peace and war, are surrounded, and accordingly we find stories of "atrocities" committed by the enemy's troops now a very favorite weapon of warfare. During the Rebellion the Southern newspapers teemed with accounts of Northern lust and ferocity, beginning with Beauregard's "Beauty and Booty" anecdote. There were few Southerners who were not firmly persuaded, on the authority of multitudinous editors, and persons who had visited New York and New Orleans in the summer season, that the plan of the Federal Government was to fill its regiments with the dregs of the population from the great cities—thieves, bullies, and gamblers and murderers, and then let them loose on the peaceful, simple, unspoiled inhabitants of Southern villages and plantations. As the war went on, awful things came to light every day, showing the tigerish disposition of the Northern troops, such as the surrender of the town in Tennessee to the troops for two hours, during which the inmates of a ladies' boarding-school were subjected to unnumbered outrages.

During the Indian summer the same were served up to the English public in the same way. Nothing was rarer than for Englishwomen to escape outrage, followed by public mutilation, in the midst of a crowd of rejoicing fiends, and people in England were only disabused of this belief by the failure of any of the victims of the mutilations to make their appearance. At first it was said that the persons who had had their noses and ears cut off, and their tongues cut out, were ashamed to show themselves, but at last even this excuse for them ceased to be heard, or only excited a laugh. In the Italian war of 1859 the Austrians were handsomely reviled for their brutalities. They shot villagers without the smallest provocation, and otherwise revelled in cruelty. The Austro-Prussian war of 1866 did not last long enough for the Prussians to display their character in Bohemia, but they are making a fearful exposure of their real nature in the present conflict. The burnings, robberies, rapes, desecration of churches, with which they are charged by French newspapers, are really enough to make angels weep, and would, if all true, show them to be fiends incarnate. The Prussians in the early days of the struggle expended their ingenuity in this line on the Turks, who, though doubtless unscrupulous barbarians, were certainly made responsible for ten times the number of murders of wounded men, and ten times the number of insults to hospital nurses, they ever committed.

Much as one may regret the amount of mendacity expended in this line of operations, it is satisfactory as revealing the steady growth of the power of public opinion over the most powerful and most excited belligerents. No matter what victories Bismarck may win, or how hopeless the situation of the French may be, he acknowledges every day that he is responsible to somebody yet more "angry" than his "angry master"—and that, even after the vanquished have fired their last shot, they are not wholly defenseless. His frequent circulars are all so many appeals to the judgment of mankind for the justification of acts which he knows superiority of force alone would not suffice to justify. The French lies about the Uhlans, and the Prussian lies about the Turks, though less respectable and less formal, are also either so many attempts to resort to the same great tribunal for the decision of questions which the sword no matter how deftly wielded, must leave unsolved—or to get, on one side or the other, a power which, though it may seem of little consequence on the battle-field, is what gives victories their fruits and makes defeat hopeless.

THE SPECTRE OF FAMINE IN FRANCE.

From the N. Y. Herald.

Count Bismarck's circular to the Ministers and diplomatic agents of North Germany residing in foreign countries sounds a note of deep and solemn warning through the general

din of war that comes to us from Europe. It is indeed like "a fire-bell in the night," to recall men, not only in France, but throughout both hemispheres, from their dreams of martial pomp and show to the stern and dreadful realities of the situation. The document referred to, which was published in a Herald despatch from Washington city on Monday morning, points out the practical fact, appalling in its importance, that, owing to the wanton destruction of roads and bridges leading from Paris to the provinces—a destruction wrought by the French themselves—the invading Germans will find it utterly impossible to supply the two million people which the capital contains with the necessities of life even after the city capitulates. As it is, the prisoners taken by the Germans in the various fights and sorties attempted by the garrison state that the latest ration has been but one pound of meat per week for each soldier inside the defenses of the city, with the stock of animal food rapidly disappearing. Meanwhile the investing force have, by intense exertion and unceasing vigilance, been able to keep open communication with the Rhine frontier, and have drawn very heavy aid, in all requisites, from home. But they have also completely eaten out and exhausted the country surrounding Paris, over a radius of some days journey not made by railroad, and the daily wider and wider consumption is rapidly extending the production area. The food question has already become a very irksome and oppressive one to the strangers. The latter number nearly, if not quite, seven hundred thousand men in arms, and chiefly concentrated around the French capital, the actual number furnished by the North and South German States together, for the war, being more than eight hundred thousand, and allowance being made for those put hors de combat by sickness, wounds and death. All then, that the reopened railroads running eastward to Germany and the scouting expeditions made on every side can do is to meet the incessant demands of this enormous force. They can achieve no more. What, then, are to become the inevitable consequences of throwing the vast population of Paris on their own resources in the winter season in an isolated region eaten out and shaven close by the locusts of war? Will there not be positive danger of the starvation of hundreds of thousands of people, as Bismarck predicts? The conclusion is heartrending to contemplate, yet it is not only possible but imminent.

But it is not Paris alone which finds itself in this miserable plight. All France is, to some degree, marked with the same. In the twenty departments now mainly under the heavy hand of the invader, the arrest of production and of harvesting, the excessive consumption by both armies, the reckless or unavoidable waste, the burning and other destruction of material, and the removal beyond the frontiers of large quantities of agricultural produce which cannot be reimposed, have swept the country bare. Moreover, we must recollect that last spring, before the war began, we had repeated advices from France of anticipated short crops in Franco, and that these advices have not been contradicted. Recently there have been more satisfactory accounts from the southern departments, but, as a general summing up, even were there no war, this great French nation of forty millions would have had to depend very largely upon imported cereals for its winter subsistence. The two years' advance supply on hand of breadstuffs, which was one of the boasted arrangements of the imperial system, seems to have been, for this year at least, as much a myth as the strength and reliability of its military organization. In one word—a word of solemn import—these reports portend the great spectre of famine looming up in more gigantic and ghastly proportions every hour over the one fair land of France. The nation but yesterday so mighty in "hard bestead and hungry," and neither rulers nor people know whither to look in this hour of their tribulation. The trials that have fallen upon them are almost apocalyptic in their suddenness, their completeness and their terror. With the threatened dearth comes the nameless horror of the "pestilence that walketh in darkness," which falls upon all flooded regions, and of the still more fearful outbreaks of miasmatic and pestilential diseases every hour over the one fair land of France. The nation but yesterday so mighty in "hard bestead and hungry," and neither rulers nor people know whither to look in this hour of their tribulation. The trials that have fallen upon them are almost apocalyptic in their suddenness, their completeness and their terror. With the threatened dearth comes the nameless horror of the "pestilence that walketh in darkness," which falls upon all flooded regions, and of the still more fearful outbreaks of miasmatic and pestilential diseases every hour over the one fair land of France.

Yet again, mingling with the abstract idea thus presented to our minds is the agony of individual suffering, not among stalwart men alone, but among the innocent and defenseless victims of the war—the aged and infirm, the wounded and the sick, feeble women and helpless babes. At the thought of their dark, dire, irredeemable destitution the very heart of humanity thrills with pity. But on this side of the Atlantic we have never yet confined our sympathies to mere commiseration. As for the Greeks in their hour of misfortune, as for Poland and Hungary, when they both starved and bled, as for Ireland, when her homeless children were dying by thousands on the highways or in the pest-houses of their native land, which should have been the island Canaan of the north, the hand of American bounty was instantly and repeatedly extended, so let it be held out now over the stormy sea and through the wintry gloom to stricken France. And there is no time to lose. Every day of delay may be fatal to many a poor brother, whom timely aid would have saved. Noble societies of foreign nationality have already been organized among us to aid the sick and wounded in both Germany and France, and national subscriptions have not been wanting; but the imminent, pressing need at this moment is for help in kind to whole masses of the French population. Let, then, the concert, the discourses, the lectures, the exhibitions that are wont to be offered for minor charities be turned towards the response to this one terrible cry for help from those who are ready to perish in an allied land, the early friend of our own republic and so long the intellectual guide of Christendom. Our Legislatures, national and State, our municipal bodies, our boards of trade, our moneyed corporations, our orders, clubs, and societies of all kinds: our agricultural, railroad, mining and moneyed princes; our religious organizations and the whole people, collectively and individually, could perform no bolder or higher act worthy of our civilization and our progressive age—more full of soothing remembrance to each heart, more in beautiful accordance with our Christian profession, more fraught with glorious auspices to us and our children, now and hereafter, than to succor our fainting brethren of France and exercise,

with the white hand and the gentle word of charity, this grim spectre of famine from their doors.

ARMY REFORMATION.

From the N. Y. Sun.

The approaching reduction of the army, and the certainty that many valuable officers now unassigned must necessarily be mustered out of service unless vacancies are made for them, has lent an unusual stimulus to the Bureau of Military Justice. Offenses that a year ago were entirely overlooked, or the perpetrators of which were, after conviction and dismissal by military tribunals, restored to the army by the Executive, now meet with punishment so prompt as to have a perceptible and healthy effect on the tone of the army. The General Staff, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, for the trial of officers have been recently or are now sitting in nearly every department, and the vigor with which offenders are brought to grief is in pleasing contrast to the laxity observable in this respect a few months ago. The danger of a great injustice happening to good men through the customary but undue lenity to the bad sharpens the eye of justice. Influence or antecedents, wounds or campaigns, avail nothing to save the erring. Neither age and long service, nor youth and inexperience, can now stay the heavy hand of law. A graduate of West Point, thirty years in the army, dismissed from its rolls simultaneously with a second lieutenant at the foot of the list; and for once, from general to subaltern, all stand equal before the law.

A file of general court-martial orders issued by the War Department is now before us. It shows that every section of the country has its representative in the catalogue of crime. The characters of the offenses, too, are as varied as the climes to which the offenders owe their nativity. Lieutenant Martin L. Brandt, 7th Infantry, born in Maryland, and promoted from the ranks, convicted of defrauding his creditors by worthless pay accounts, is dismissed the service. Captain Charles G. Cox, 10th Cavalry, born in Maine, appointed from Colorado, for getting drunk, breaking his arrest, swearing at and beating his men, and selling "one sorrel horse," the property of the United States, is cashiered and sentenced to the penitentiary for three years. The President remits the penitentiary, but Cox leaves the service.

Captain George W. Graham, 10th Cavalry, from New York, amused himself by publicly driving in a buggy with an abandoned woman, then attempted to sell a roan horse, and finally, on the 7th of October, was convicted on every side can do is to meet the incessant demands of this enormous force. They can achieve no more. What, then, are to become the inevitable consequences of throwing the vast population of Paris on their own resources in the winter season in an isolated region eaten out and shaven close by the locusts of war? Will there not be positive danger of the starvation of hundreds of thousands of people, as Bismarck predicts? The conclusion is heartrending to contemplate, yet it is not only possible but imminent.

Lieutenant Erwin Seeley, 4th Artillery, born in Pennsylvania and appointed from the army, became so hopelessly involved financially while acting as commissary and quartermaster at Fort Washington, Maryland, that his affairs could only be straightened out by trying him for making false returns and statements, cashiering him, and publishing his crime in the newspapers of Ohio and the District of Columbia.

These are a few samples, taken at random, but they prove the earnestness with which the authorities are at work purifying the army. The public must not hastily and adversely judge of the service that has so long held these men unpunished, but rather rest assured that those who are left are worthy of confidence; nor is the time now far distant when the uniform of the officer will be, as of old, the unmistakable proof that its wearer is a gentleman.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS—OFFICE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY. A special meeting of the Stockholders of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will be held on WEDNESDAY, the 1st of November, at 12 o'clock, noon, at the Office of the Company, No. 407 LIBERTY STREET, Philadelphia, to take into consideration the execution of a mortgage upon the property of the company, and the issue of the bonds of the company to an amount not exceeding one hundred and twenty thousand dollars (\$120,000) bearing interest at the rate of seven per centum per annum, to be secured by said mortgage.

HELMHOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU GIVES health and vigor to the frame and blood to the pallid cheek. Debility is accompanied by many alarming symptoms, and if no treatment is submitted to, consumption, insanity, or epileptic fits ensue.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE BRIDGESBURG BANK, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to five hundred thousand dollars.

HELMHOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU AND IMPROVED ROSE WASH cure delicate disorders in all their stages, at little expense, little or no change in diet, no inconvenience, and no exposure. It is pleasant in taste and odor, immediate in its action, and free from all injurious properties.

TURNER'S UNIVERSAL NEURALGIA FILLER UNFADING REMEDY FOR RHEUMATISM, RAIGIA FACIALIS. No form of Nervous Disease fails to yield to its wonderful power. Even in the severest cases of Chronic Rheumatism, its use for a few days affords the most astonishing relief, and rarely fails to produce a complete and permanent cure. It contains no materials in the slightest degree injurious. It has the unqualified approval of the best Physicians. Thousands, in every part of the country, gratefully acknowledge its power to soothe the tortured nerves and restore the falling strength.

SPECIAL NOTICES.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE PHILADELPHIA GRANARY COMPANY will be held at the Office of the Company, northeast corner of NINTH and GREEN Streets, on MONDAY, the 14th day of November next, at 10 o'clock A. M., and thereafter after the adjournment of the meeting an election will be held at the same place, for four Managers to serve three years, commencing on the 1st day of January, 1871.

ENFEBLED AND DELICATE CONSTITUTIONS, of both sexes, use HELMHOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU. It will give blood and energetic feelings, and enable you to sleep well.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE BULL'S HEAD BANK, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to five hundred thousand dollars.

HELMHOLD'S FLUID EXTRACT BUCHU is pleasant in taste and odor, immediate in its action, and free from all injurious properties, and is sold by all druggists and dentists.

TREGO'S TEABERRY TOOTHWASH. It is the most pleasant, cheapest and best dentifrice extant. Warranted free from injurious ingredients.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE Annual Meeting of the CITY SEWAGE UTILIZATION COMPANY will be held, in conformity with the By-Laws, at 12 o'clock M., on WEDNESDAY, November 3, 1870, at the Office of the Company, Room No. 8, No. 518 WALNUT STREET, Philadelphia, when an election will be held for Nine Directors, one of whom shall be President, to serve for the ensuing year, and such other business will be transacted as may present itself.

MANHOOD AND YOUTHFUL VIGOR are regained by HELMHOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE NATIONAL BANK, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to one million dollars.

THE GLORY OF MAN IS STRENGTH.—Therefore the nervous and debilitated should immediately use HELMHOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU.

BACHELOR'S HAIR DYE.—THIS SPLENDID Hair Dye is the best in the world, the only true and perfect Dye. Harmless—Reliable—Instantaneous—No Disappointment—No Reflection—Does not contain Lead or any other Poisonous to injure the Hair or System. Invigorates the Hair and prevents the growth of Dandruff or Itch.

THE UNION FIRE EXTINGUISHER COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA. Manufacture and sell the Improved, Portable Fire Extinguisher. Always Reliable.

JAMES M. SGOVEL, CAMDEN, N. J.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN application will be made at the next meeting of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the incorporation of a Bank, in accordance with the laws of the Commonwealth, to be entitled THE NATIONAL BANK, to be located at Philadelphia, with a capital of one hundred thousand dollars, with the right to increase the same to one million dollars.

SHATTERED CONSTITUTIONS RESTORED BY HELMHOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU.

DIVIDENDS, ETC.

OFFICE OF THE PENNSYLVANIA RAILROAD COMPANY. PHILADELPHIA, November 1, 1870.

NOTICE TO STOCKHOLDERS.—The Board of Directors have this day declared a semi-annual dividend of FIVE PER CENT. on the Capital Stock of the Company, clear of National and State taxes, payable in cash, on or after November 30, 1870.

PHARMERS' AND MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, November 1, 1870.

MECHANICS' NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, November 1, 1870.

CITY NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, November 1, 1870.

GIRARD NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, November 1, 1870.

THE MANUFACTURERS' NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, November 1, 1870.

THE COMMERCIAL NATIONAL BANK OF PENNSYLVANIA. PHILADELPHIA, November 1, 1870.

CORN EXCHANGE NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, November 1, 1870.

THE CENTRAL NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, November 1, 1870.

SOUTHARK NATIONAL BANK. PHILADELPHIA, November 1, 1870.

WHISKY, WINE, ETC. CARSTAIRS & McCALL.

PURE RYE WHISKIES. IN BOND AND TAX PAID.

BOARDING. 1121 GIRARD STREET, BETWEEN ELEVENTH and TWELFTH and CHESTNUT and MARKET STREETS.

OLD OAKS CEMETERY COMPANY OF PHILADELPHIA.

TO RENT.—THE STORE NO. 722 CHESTNUT STREET. Apply on the premises between 10 and 12 o'clock A. M.

FURNISHED HOUSE IN SEVENTEENTH STREET, near Walnut street, for 1, 2, or 3 years.

TO RENT.—THE STORE NO. 722 CHESTNUT STREET. Apply on the premises between 10 and 12 o'clock A. M.

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MILLINERY, ETC.

MRS. R. DILLON, Nos. 323 and 331 SOUTH STREET. FANCY AND MOURNING MILLINERY, CRAPE VEILS.

Ladies' and Misses' Caps, Felt, Gimp, Hair, Satin, Silk, Straw and Velvets, Hats and Bonnets, French Flowers, Hat and Bonnet Frames, Capes, Laces, Silks, Satins, Velvets, Ribbons, Sashes, Ornaments and all kinds of Millinery Goods.

PATENT SHOULDER-SEAM SHIRT MANUFACTORY, AND GENTLEMEN'S FURNISHING STORE.

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CLOTHS, CASSIMERES, ETC. CLOTH HOUSE.

JAMES & HUBER, No. 11 North SECOND Street.

Art Exhibition. ON FREE EXHIBITION AT CHAS. F. HASELTINE'S GALLERY.

BRUNN'S FAMOUS PANORAMIC VIEWS OF Berlin, Potsdam, Charlottenburg, Coblenz, Heidelberg, Jena, Weimar, Erfurt, Bamberg, Baden-Baden, Weiden, Brüssel, Amsterdam, Waterloo, Liege, Ypres, Rotterdam, Utrecht, etc.

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BACHELOR'S HAIR DYE.—THIS SPLENDID Hair Dye is the best in the world, the only true and perfect Dye.

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SHATTERED CONSTITUTIONS RESTORED BY HELMHOLD'S EXTRACT BUCHU.

ESTABLISHED IN 1835. Invariably the greatest success over all competitors whenever and wherever exhibited or used in the UNITED STATES.

CHARLES WILLIAMS' Patent Golden Eagle Furnaces.

BUZBY & HUNTERSON, MORNING GLORY Stove, Heater and Range Warehouses.

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INSURANCE.

INSURANCE COMPANY OF NORTH AMERICA. Incorporated 1794. Charter Perpetual.

CAPITAL \$2,000,000. ASSETS \$2,158,951. Losses paid since organization \$23,000,000.

STATEMENT OF THE ASSETS. First Mortgages on City Property \$766,460. United States Government and other Loan Bonds 1,128,946.

Real Estate, Bank and Canal Stocks 25,288. Cash in Bank and Office 247,630. Loans on Collateral Security 83,558.

Notes Receivable, mostly Marine Premiums 231,944. Accrued Interest 93,827. Premiums in course of transmission 58,198.

Unsettled Marine Premiums 100,900. Real Estate, Office of Company, Philadelphia 30,900.

Directors: Arthur G. Coffin, Francis H. Cope, Samuel W. Jones, Edward H. Trotter, John A. Howe, George S. Clark, Charles Taylor, T. Charlton Henry, Andrew White, Alfred D. Jessup, W. C. Madigan, Charles W. Cushman, John M. Mason, Clement A. Griscom, George L. Harrison, William Brooker.

ARTHUR G. COFFIN, President. CHARLES W. CUSHMAN, Vice-President. MATTHEW MARIS, Secretary. C. H. KIRKES, Assistant Secretary.

1829. CHARTER PERPETUAL. 1870. Franklin Fire Insurance Company OF PHILADELPHIA.

Office, Nos. 435 and 437 CHESTNUT ST. Assets Aug. 1, '70 \$3,009,883'24.

CAPITAL \$400,000.00. ACCRUED SURPLUS AND PREMIUMS 2,609,883'24. INCOME FOR 1870 \$170,000. LOSSES PAID IN 1869 \$14,969'42.

Losses paid since 1829 over \$5,500,000. Perpetual and Temporary Policies on Liberal Terms.

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